

दुर्गा शंकर मिश्र  
सचिव  
**Durga Shanker Mishra**  
Secretary



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## MESSAGE

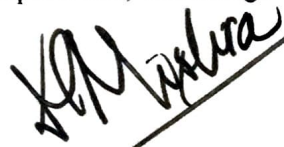
With projected over 50% of country's population to become urban by 2050<sup>1</sup>, there will be a massive growth in daily urban trips. Planning, design and innovative solutions on Sustainable Urban Mobility would be crucial for India's development in the urban transport sector. In addition, the current Covid 19 pandemic has halted normal everyday life of millions of people across the world, calling for far-reaching efforts in radicalizing the urban transport environment.

India's growth story in urban mobility is unfolding in its cities of all sizes, from mega cities to small towns and is catching the attention of the world. Starting modestly, rail-based Mass Rapid Transit Systems in the country have reached a large network of 700 operational km catering to about 8.5 million passengers; further over 900 km metro network is under construction in 27 cities. Government endeavours to facilitate structured city bus services in all 5 lakhs+ cities and foster NMTs and other cleaner modes of transit, through initiatives such as India Cycles4Change and Street4People challenges. Taking forward the agenda of Hon'ble Prime Minister of "Aatmanirbhar Bharat" through various initiatives, such as AMRUT, Smart Cities Mission, and development of mass rapid transit systems, my Ministry is taking lead in indigenising various components/ subassemblies to reduce dependence on import.

Considering the current pandemic as an opportunity, MoHUA has circulated a three-pronged strategy to the cities consisting of **Encouragement & Revival of Non-Motorised Transport, Recommencing of Public Transport with Greater Confidence of Commuters and Active Utilization of Technology.**

The 13<sup>th</sup> Urban Mobility India Conference 2020 on the theme of '**Emerging Trends in Urban Mobility**', the first in a virtual format due to Covid-19 pandemic, will be very useful platform in bringing together all the stakeholders for exchange of experiences, knowledge sharing and peer learning, particularly for the post Covid era.

I convey my best wishes for the success of this event.

  
(Durga Shanker Mishra)

<sup>1</sup> Vision 2024